



February 2002

Dear 32nd District Neighbor,

I am very excited and honored to have been selected as your new state representative and will work hard with you to strengthen our community.

I know I have a big job ahead of me and look forward to talking with you about issues that are extremely important to me and to our district such as :

- Economic development and **jobs**
- Conserving and reclaiming our **environment**
- Enhancing our **education** system
- Fixing local and state-wide **transportation** systems

The reality is that the state is facing a budget shortfall of \$1.2 billion. There is just not enough revenue coming into the state treasury. It is this problem that prevents us from implementing everything we would like, and may keep us from maintaining many current services. Programs such as parks, police protection, and health care for our low-income families and children may have to be eliminated or drastically cut. When the state has insufficient revenue, counties and cities are also hit hard. When taxes we have depended on are restricted or eliminated, local governments must cut services. Fire, water and sewage services -- often called "junior taxing districts" -- are affected as well.

From across the state, citizen legislators have gathered in Olympia and everyone is praying for the wisdom of Solomon. We face some hard questions such as:

How can we keep our promise to our public employees -- firefighters, police officers, teachers and other employees we depend on?

- How can we continue to provide services for vulnerable seniors and children?
- Can we avoid cutting programs our citizens want, and in many cases, desperately need?
- How can we ensure we have enough water for people and fish?
- What can we do about our terribly stalled transportation system?

Our citizens have said, through *some* initiatives, they want to pay fewer taxes but in *others* they have said they want to spend more -- such as in the education initiatives.

The 1.2 billion shortfall is real and we are required by the state constitution to balance the budget.

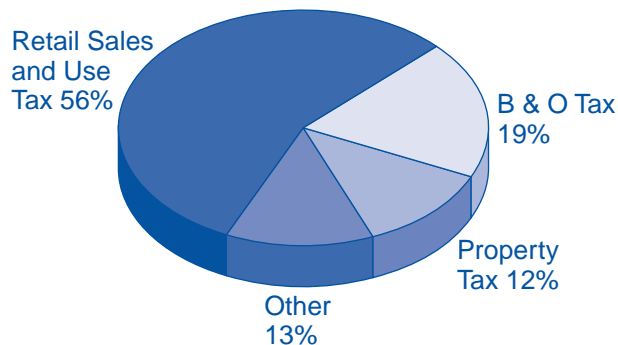
I want to hear from you about these and any other issues.

It is my job to balance all of our conflicting voices.

You are welcome to contact my office directly. The list of phone numbers and e-mail address are on the bottom of this

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General Fund - Major Revenue Sources



This chart illustrates where the money comes from

This chart illustrates where the money is spent